

North-West Eau Claire *Build Wisconsin* Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group _____Red_____ (color)

Facilitator _____Greg Wise_____

Recorder-Reporter _____Linda Keefe_____

Top 10 responses to the question: “What can the State do to foster economic growth in your region?”

Priority response #1 (votes: _4_)

Incentive programs to keep and attract back grads.

Priority response #2 (votes: __4_)

Increase venture capital dollars to our regions.

Priority response #3 (votes: _4__)

Increase capacity in technical college programs.

Priority response #4 (votes: _3)

Markets, markets, markets

Priority response #5 (votes: __3_)

Affordable (low-moderate) housing

Priority response #6 (votes: __3_)

Ensure adequate energy resources for area growth.

Priority response #7 (votes: __2_)

Reduce personal income taxes (1 pt. In 3 years) to retain med. Skill-management workers..

Priority response #8 (votes: __2_)

Help rural areas with telecom infrastructure.

Priority response #9 (votes: _2_)

Assist CVTC’s effort to develop electrical engineering curriculum/program.

Priority response #10 (votes: _2_)

Help small-medium sized business with health care costs.

“Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas” Exercise

“If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

Priority Issue #1 Incentive programs to keep and attract back grads.

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

1. Waive student loan repayment if take job in WI
2. Business-industry – student internships through incentives to students (pay) and business (tax credits)
3. State supported market research to determine what it takes to keep/get back grads
4. Attract good jobs through ... better tax climate (income tax rates), technology transfer
5. Tax incentive to businesses that hire WI grads
6. Attract high-tech companies to states
7. Index incentives to targeted skills
8. Expand co-op programs and make a part of degree requirements
9. Recruit more students into WTC system (90% in-state retention) i.e. TOP grants
10. Promote young adult centered activities, cultural attractions, etc. need to be highlighted, enhanced, etc.
11. Develop a “come back” program for returning grads via Alumni Assoc., Forward WI, etc.
12. Fund to support “Alum” business start-ups.
13. Image and branding need to reflect a more exciting State
14. Promote “great Jobs” and WI Jobs for WI grads” for WI grad efforts
15. Develop housing supply incentives to attract grads.
16. Update/increase telecommunications infrastructure.

Priority Issue #2 Increase venture capital dollars to our region.

1. Provide tax incentives to banks and other consortia that would provide high-risk loans to small business.
2. Reduce state investment board minimum from \$3 mil to \$1 mil.
3. Increase/leverage and other activity and use state institutions/retirement funds for in-state venture capital.
4. Promote angel networks with road show via commissioner

5. Encourage utility company venture capital investment with tax credits (tradable)
6. Promote WI deals to out-of-state venture capitalists.

Priority Issue #3 Increase capacity in technical college programs.

1. Block grants to reward cases that are demonstrating a “response: to demand.
2. Improve conditions to encourage private sector – education partnerships/investments (tax credits)
3. Leadership that broadens our provincial attitudes
4. Increase tax levy for WTCS
5. Provide a WTCS “check-off” on tax return.